

## **Solid Waste Advisory Committee Meeting Summary**

### **June 22, 2006**

#### **Solid Waste Master Plan Revision Update**

John Fischer gave an update on the final *Solid Waste Master Plan: 2006 Revision* which has recently been posted on the MassDEP website, along with a Response to Comments document that responds to comments made at public hearings and during the public comment period. The major Master Plan goals, policies, and strategies remain unchanged from the Public Hearing Draft, although a number of specific program descriptions have been revised and updated. MassDEP also has updated the Master Plan with 2004 solid waste and waste reduction data, which had been presented in draft form at the January 2006 SWAC meeting. The final *Solid Waste Master Plan: 2006 Revision*, along with the Appendices and Response to Comments document, can be accessed at: <http://www.mass.gov/dep/recycle/priorities/dswmpu01.htm>.

MassDEP's next steps are to develop a FY2006 solid waste and waste reduction program update and a FY2007 Solid Waste Master Plan Implementation Plan, which we hope to present to the SWAC for discussion in Fall 2006. These documents will highlight what aspects of the Master Plan MassDEP will focus on in the short term.

#### **Disaster Debris Management Plan**

John Fischer gave an update on MassDEP's work to revise the Commonwealth's Disaster Debris Management Plan, which is an annex to the state's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan. MassDEP has been working with other state agencies to develop a specific avian influenza debris management plan, as well as a broader All Hazards Disaster Debris Management Plan. In the short term, MassDEP will focus on avian flu and hurricane or other major storm debris management planning and preparation.

MassDEP expects to complete a draft plan later this summer and have an external discussion draft of these planning documents available in Fall 2006. MassDEP would then meet with municipal associations, the solid waste industry, and key parties over the course of Winter 2006 and Spring 2007. In the interim, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health has posted a document titled *Frequently Asked Questions about Avian Flu* on its website at [www.mass.gov/dph/topics/avian\\_flu.htm](http://www.mass.gov/dph/topics/avian_flu.htm).

Attendees made several comments regarding disaster debris planning:

- One participant announced that Franklin County has received a USDA grant to develop disaster debris management planning at the county level. This planning includes developing formulas for estimating debris management needs for local and regional areas.
- A participant mentioned that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Health and Human Services and Department of Homeland Security have held meetings with the solid waste industry on a national level, including the Solid Waste Association of North America, the National Solid Waste Management Association and the Integrated Waste Services Association. The participant asked whether MassDEP plans to hold

similar meetings and discussions on the state level. MassDEP responded that similar meetings will be held once MassDEP has a proposed Debris Management Plan ready for discussion and input.

- A participant stated that it is important that MassDEP have the ability to quickly establish emergency solid waste permitting to allow solid waste facilities to accept increased amounts of material in the event of a disaster. MassDEP responded that MassDEP's regional offices have the ability to quickly approve emergency disposal capacity in the event of a disaster and this will be included in the plan.

### **Waste Ban Hauler/Generator Enforcement, Supermarket Recycling Program Certification, and Department Approved Recycling Program**

Steve Long gave a presentation on MassDEP's work to expand and improve waste ban enforcement, as well as two related programs: the Supermarket Recycling Program Certification (SRPC) and the Department Approved Recycling Program (DARP). As part of this work, MassDEP will be sending lists of DARP municipalities and SRPC supermarkets to solid waste facilities and posting the SRPC list on the MassDEP web site at:

<http://www.mass.gov/dep/recycle/supermkt.htm#srpc>. In response to a question, MassDEP clarified that we will also be sending solid waste facilities a list of transfer stations that only accept loads of less than five cubic yards and are, therefore, exempt from the waste bans for asphalt paving, brick, concrete, metal, and wood in their loads shipped to other solid waste facilities. This presentation is posted on the MassDEP web site along with these meeting notes. For more information, please contact Steve Long at [Stephen.Long@state.ma.us](mailto:Stephen.Long@state.ma.us).

### **C&D Waste Ban Implementation and Hydrogen Sulfide Policy**

Jamie Doucett gave an update on C&D Waste Ban Implementation and a Draft Hydrogen Sulfide Policy. The waste ban on asphalt paving, brick, concrete, metal, and wood will go into effect as announced on July 1, 2006. Most facilities have submitted their Waste Ban Plans for MassDEP review, though there are a few outstanding. In response to concerns about markets for the newly-banned materials, MassDEP has contacted all of the C&D processors and confirmed that they are able to handle and divert the banned materials, including wood, to recycling and reuse markets at acceptable levels to comply with the waste ban. For more information about waste bans, including the regulations and guidance, please check the MassDEP web site at <http://www.mass.gov/dep/recycle/solid/regs0201.htm>.

MassDEP has completed a draft policy focused on addressing hydrogen sulfide emissions from both active landfills and inactive landfill closure projects. The policy would establish guidelines for hydrogen sulfide contingency plans from these facilities. These plans would be activated by either odor complaints or by exceedances of proposed monitoring levels. These plans, which would be integrated into facility permits, would establish specific action steps to address hydrogen sulfide emissions and would enable expedited responses to address these concerns in the event of hydrogen sulfide emissions.

MassDEP plans to release the draft policy for public comment for a 30-day comment period. MassDEP will post the draft policy on the MassDEP web page shortly and send a notice to the SWAC email list, as well as landfill owners/operators. For questions on the draft hydrogen

sulfide policy or C&D waste ban implementation, please contact Jamie Doucett at [James.Doucett@state.ma.us](mailto:James.Doucett@state.ma.us).

### **MassDevelopment Financing Assistance**

MassDevelopment is a quasi-public agency that supports business development through providing tax-exempt bonds, loans and guarantees, and planning and development services to Massachusetts businesses. Steve Chilton from MassDevelopment gave a presentation on MassDevelopment's services, including tax-exempt bond opportunities, specific to solid waste, recycling, and composting facilities. This presentation is posted on the MassDEP web site along with these meeting notes. For more information, please contact Steve Chilton from Mass Development by phone at (617) 330-2058 or by email at [schilton@massdevelopment.com](mailto:schilton@massdevelopment.com).

### **Asbestos in Soils Regulations**

Sarah Weinstein gave an update on the development of proposed regulations to address management of asbestos containing soils. In Fall 2004, MassDEP issued draft regulations for public comment, which included provisions to address management of asbestos containing soils. In particular, these regulations would allow soils containing low amounts of asbestos to be disposed of as solid waste. However, this proposal did not fully address the need for adequate testing methods to support this management approach as well as the fact that landfills typically would not want to accept this material for disposal.

MassDEP has worked with its "Asbestos in Soil" Workgroup to develop a revised proposal and expects to issue revised draft regulations for public comment in Fall 2006. These regulations will more clearly establish when debris that contains asbestos has to be reported to MassDEP as a 21E release (and assessed and cleaned up.) MassDEP will also propose to revise the policy on managing contaminated soil to allow the use of some asbestos containing soils as alternative daily cover or grading and shaping materials at solid waste facilities. MassDEP will send an email to the SWAC email list once the revised regulations are made available for public comment. For more information, please contact Sarah Weinstein at (617) 574-6862.

### **Next SWAC Meeting**

The next SWAC Meeting is scheduled for Thursday October 26, 2006, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at MassDEP, One Winter Street, in Boston.